States. Deposits in the national banks fell from $641,121,-775 on June 13, 1873, to $540,510,602 on December 26th. The failures for four years showed aggregate liabilities of $775,865,000 and the railway bonds in default on January i, 1876, amounted to $789,367,655.'

The Secretary of the Treasury endeavored to relieve the money market by paying out $24,000,000 in the purchase of bonds. Little of the money reached the New York banks and they found a more effectual expedient in the issue of clearing-house certificates.[2] This resource had been availed of during the forced liquidations of 1860 and other years of the war, but the amount had never before reached the figures which were attained in 1873. These certificates were issued by a committee, upon the deposit of approved securities by the banks taking out certificates, and were receivable in the settlement of the balances of the several banks at the clearing house. This made them the equivalent of currency in the bank reserves and released a corresponding amount of currency for other uses. The issues of clearing-house certificates at New York, on various occasions of stringency from their adoption to 1893, were as follows[3]:

YEAR.	FIRST ISSUE.	FINAL CANCELLATION.	TOTAL ISSUE.	MAXIMUM Oirr-STANDING.
i860	Nov. 23	Mar. 9, 1861	$ 7,375,000	$ 6,860,000
1861	Sept.	Apr. 28, 1862	22,585,000	21,960,000
1863	Sept.	Feb. i,	11,471,000	9,608,000
1864	Feb.	C	17,728,000	16,418,000
1873	Sept.	m. 14, 1874	26,505,000	22,4IO,OOO
1884	May	me 6.	24,915,000	21,885,000
1890	Nov. 12	eb. 7,	16,645,000	I5,2O5,OOO
1893	June 21	Nov. i, 1893	41,490,000	38,280,000

[1]

Wells, 6. *Kinle y, 185-86.
[3] *New York Journal of Commerce,* Jan. 16,1896.   The Philadelphia clearing house issued $6,785,000 in 1873.   T&ᵉ banks paid six per cent. interest on the certificates held, which, ensured their retirement when the emergency was passed.
[4] Except $250,000 issued to the Metropolitan

National Bank, some of which were not paid until September 23, 1886.